

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Rice washing water is exposed to ultraviolet light so that ferulic acid in the rice washing water is excited by the ultraviolet light to emit fluorescence. Then the intensity of fluorescence emitted by the ferulic acid in the rice washing water is measured and the measured values are used as an index to judge the amount of bran in the rice washing water. Preferably the wave length of the ultraviolet light is set to fall in the range of 330 to 340 nm and the wave length of the fluorescence, whose intensity is to be measured, is set to fall in the range of 430 to 450 nm.